

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A side effect-relieving agent which is dosed for relieving a side effect of thiazolidine compounds which comprises a crude drug mixture as an active ingredient comprising Ephedrae Herba, Glycyrrhizae Radix and Gypsum Fibrosum each of which is in a form of ground powders, extracts or mixtures of powders and extracts.
2. (Currently Amended) The side effect-relieving agent according to Claim 1, comprising the crude drug mixture in a form of a crude drug preparation.
3. (Original) The side effect-relieving agent according to Claim 2, wherein the crude drug preparation is selected from Bofu-tsusho-san, Goko-to, Makyo-kanseki-to and Eppika-jutsu-to.
4. (Original) The side effect-relieving agent according to Claim 1, wherein the thiazolidine compound is selected from pioglitazone, troglitazone, rosiglitazone and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.
5. (Original) The side effect-relieving agent according to Claim 1, wherein the Glycyrrhizae Radix is formulated in an amount of 0.1 to 3 parts by weight and Gypsum Fibrosum is formulated in an amount of 0.5 to 5 parts by weight on the basis of 1 part by weight of Ephedrae Herba.
6. (Currently Amended) The side effect-relieving agent according to Claim 1, wherein the crude drug mixture is coated with a coating agent or the crude drug mixture is dispersed in a base to make a matrix form.
7. (Original) The side effect-relieving agent according to Claim 1, which further contains conventional pharmaceutically acceptable additives.

8. (Original) A pharmaceutical formulation, which contains the side effect-relieving agent according to Claim 1 together with a thiazolidine compound.
9. (Withdrawn) A method of treating the side effect-relieving agent according to Claim 1 for relieving a side effect induced by a thiazolidine compound.
10. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 9, wherein the side effect-relieving agent for thiazolidine compounds which comprises a crude drug as an active ingredient comprising Ephedrae Herba, Glycyrrhizae Radix and Gypsum Fibrosum each of which is in a form of ground powders, extracts or mixtures of powders and extracts is used orally in a diabetic concomitantly with, or before or after administration of a thiazolidine compound.
11. (Currently Amended) A hypoglycemic effect enhancer which is dosed for enhancing hypoglycemic effect of thiazolidine compounds which comprises a crude drug mixture as an active ingredient comprising Ephedrae Herba, Glycyrrhizae Radix and Gypsum Fibrosum each of which is in a form of ground powders, extracts or mixtures of powders and extracts.
12. (Currently Amended) The hypoglycemic effect enhancer according to Claim 11, comprising the crude drug mixture in a form of a crude drug preparation.
13. (Original) The hypoglycemic effect enhancer according to Claim 12, wherein the crude drug preparation is selected from Bofu-tsusho-san, Goko-to, Makyo-kanseki-to and Eppika-jutsu-to.
14. (Original) The hypoglycemic effect enhancer according to Claim 11, wherein the thiazolidine compound is selected from pioglitazone, troglitazone, rosiglitazone and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.
15. (Original) The hypoglycemic effect enhancer according to Claim 11, wherein the Glycyrrhizae Radix is formulated in an amount of 0.1 to 3 parts by weight and Gypsum

Fibrosus is formulated in an amount of 0.5 to 5 parts by weight on the basis of 1 part by weight of Ephedrae Herba.

16. (Original) The hypoglycemic effect enhancer according to Claim 11, which further contains conventional pharmaceutically acceptable additives.

17. (Currently Amended) The hypoglycemic effect enhancer according to Claim 11, wherein the crude drug mixture is coated with a coating agent or the crude drug mixture is dispersed in a base to make a matrix form.

18. (Original) A pharmaceutical formulation, which contains the hypoglycemic effect enhancer according to Claim 11 together with a thiazolidine compound.

19. (Withdrawn) A method of treating the hypoglycemic effect enhancer according to Claim 11 for enhancing a hypoglycemic effects of a thiazolidine compound.

20. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 19, wherein the hypoglycemic effect enhancer for thiazolidine compounds which comprises a crude drug as an active ingredient comprising Ephedrae Herba, Glycyrrhizae Radix and Gypsum Fibrosum each of which is in a form of ground powders, extracts or mixtures of powders and extracts is used orally in a diabetic concomitantly with, or before or after administration of a thiazolidine compound.

21. (New) A composition, comprising:

a crude drug mixture as an active ingredient comprising Ephedrae Herba, Glycyrrhizae Radix and Gypsum Fibrosum each of which is in a form of ground powders, extracts or mixtures of powders and extracts; and

a means for providing the crude drug mixture to a diabetic concomitantly with, or before or after administration of a thiazolidine compound to the diabetic for at least one of relieving a side effect induced by the thiazolidine compound or enhancing a hypoglycemic effects of the thiazolidine compound.

22. (New) The composition according to Claim 21, wherein the crude drug mixture in a form of a crude drug preparation selected from Bofu-tsusho-san, Goko-to, Makyo-kanseki-to and Eppika-jutsu-to.

23. (New) The composition according to Claim 21, wherein the Glycyrrhizae Radix is formulated in an amount of 0.1 to 3 parts by weight and Gypsum Fibrosum is formulated in an amount of 0.5 to 5 parts by weight on the basis of 1 part by weight of Ephedrae Herba.

24. (New) The composition according to Claim 21, further comprising the thiazolidine compound.

25. (New) The composition according to Claim 24, wherein the thiazolidine compound is selected from pioglitazone, troglitazone, rosiglitazone and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

26. (New) A composition, comprising:
a crude drug mixture as an active ingredient comprising Ephedrae Herba, Glycyrrhizae Radix and Gypsum Fibrosum each of which is in a form of ground powders, extracts or mixtures of powders and extracts; and
a thiazolidine compound.

27. (New) The composition according to Claim 26, wherein the crude drug mixture in a form of a crude drug preparation selected from Bofu-tsusho-san, Goko-to, Makyo-kanseki-to and Eppika-jutsu-to.

28. (New) The composition according to Claim 26, wherein the Glycyrrhizae Radix is formulated in an amount of 0.1 to 3 parts by weight and Gypsum Fibrosum is formulated in an amount of 0.5 to 5 parts by weight on the basis of 1 part by weight of Ephedrae Herba.

29. (New) The composition according to Claim 26, wherein the thiazolidine compound is selected from pioglitazone, troglitazone, rosiglitazone and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

30. (New) The composition according to Claim 26, wherein the composition is coated with a coating agent or the composition is dispersed in a base to make a matrix form.